

Cancel claim 32 (second occurrence) without prejudice as not being in accordance with U.S. practice.

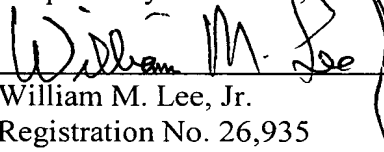
REMARKS

The above amendments are being made in order to eliminate multiple dependency and improper multiple dependency, as well as an improper claim, before calculation of the national filing fee for the United States. Should any multiple dependency remain, that is unintended, and the Patent and Trademark Office is requested to cancel any remaining multiple dependent claims without prejudice before calculation of the application filing fee.

Examination of the application on its merits is awaited.

September 24, 2001

Respectfully submitted,



William M. Lee, Jr.

Registration No. 26,935

Lee, Mann, Smith, McWilliams,
Sweeney & Ohlson

P.O. Box 2786

Chicago, Illinois 60690-2786

(312) 368-6620

(312) 368-0034 (fax)

202740 6292660

Version With Markings To Show Changes Made

3. (amended). A coin projection device as claimed in claim 1 [or 2], wherein the ejection means comprises a platform for supporting the coin stack, wherein the platform is slidable between a first position in which the coin stack is supported on the platform and a second position in which the coin stack is supported on a further, lower platform, and when the platform passes from the first position to the second position, the coin stack drops to the lower platform, and when the platform passes from the second position to the first position the lowest coin in the stack is pushed by the platform onto the coin projection runway.

4. (amended). A coin projection device as claimed in [any of claims 1 to 3] claim 1, wherein the firing mechanism comprises a hammer for striking an edge of the coin which overhangs the end of the runway.

7. (amended). A coin projection device as claimed in [any of claims 1 to 6] claim 1, wherein the runway comprises in series first and second portions having an abrupt direction change at the boundary.

8. (amended). A coin projection machine comprising a number of coin projection devices as claimed [in any preceding] claim 1, wherein the machine comprises a single manual control for operating simultaneously the firing mechanism of each device.

10. (amended). An amusement machine comprising the combination of a coin projection device or coin projection machine as claimed in [any of claims 1 to 9] claim 1, and a playing surface onto which the coins are projected.

15. (amended). A coin magazine according to claim 13 [or 14], in which actuation of the solenoid is controlled in dependence on a sensor which determines whether or not a coin is present in the coin holder.

18. (amended). An apparatus according to claim 16 [or 17], in which the surface is movable and the sweeper arm is static.

09037529.041203
20240625ZEE60

19. (amended). An apparatus according to claim 17 [or 18], in which the surface is a rotatable circular playfield, with at least two equally spaced radial sweeper arms.

24. (amended). An apparatus according to [any of claims 21 to 23] claim 21, in which the or each sensor is associated with at least one dedicated look-up table which defines the circumferential limits of each target area capable of passing within the detection field of the sensor with respect to count value.

25. (amended). An apparatus according to [any of claims 21 to 24] claim 21, in which the position encoder counter is reset periodically in dependence on the relative positions of the target field and the or each sensor.

26. (amended). An apparatus according to [any of claims 21 to 25] claim 21, in which the or each sensor is an inductive field-type sensor.

27. (amended). An apparatus according to [any of claims 21 to 26] claim 21, in which the relative movement between the surface and the or each sensor is achieved by a combination of a movable playfield with one or more static sensors.

28. (amended). An apparatus according to [any of claims 21 to 27] claim 21, in which the relative movement between the surface and the or each sensor is achieved by a combination of a movable playfield with one or more movable sensors.

29. (amended). An apparatus according to [any of claims 21 to 27] claim 21, in which the relative movement between the surface and the or each sensor is achieved by a combination of a static playfield with one or more movable sensors.

30. (amended). An apparatus according to [any of claims 21 to 29] claim 21, in which the surface comprises a rotatable playfield with at least two radially spaced sensors.

32. (amended). An amusement machine comprising an article holding apparatus according to [any of claims 16 to 31] claim 16.

2024062523660